

# Fortas Behind-the-Scenes Fixer



## ABE FORTAS AND HARRY DEXTER WHITE

On January 4, 1945 (See INTERLOCKING SUBVERSION IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, PART 111), Fortas wrote the following letter to Dexter White, later exposed as a Soviet agent.

Jan. 4, 1945

Dear Harry:

I am delighted that the president nominated you to be Assistant Secretary of Treasury. Your promotion is completely deserved and it will strengthen the government considerably.

My very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Abe

Undersecretary

White had been reported SIX TIMES to President Truman, by the FBI as a COMMUNIST AGENT! It was during 1944 that White's treasonous deal of giving our money engraving plates to Russia came to light. Are we to believe Fortas did not know what kind of man White was?

## FORTAS AIDS REDS IN STATE DEPARTMENT

"Fortas has been a severe critic of the Government security program." A story in the Nov. 3, 1950 DAILY WORKER (Communist paper) was headlined: "Three ex-government officials hit State Department firings." The WORKER revealed that Fortas, a former New Deal bureaucrat, had joined two colleagues to blast as "unfair and un-American" the dismissal of certain State Department employees accused of disloyalty. Fortas said the firings smacked of a "police state."

A paragraph from Arthur M. Schlesinger's book "THE COMING OF THE NEW DEAL," reveals the following:

"What we need," he (Jerome Frank) told Peek, 'are brilliant young men with keen legal minds and imagination.' In a short time he brought together a remarkable group — among them, Thurman Arnold (later to become Fortas' law partner) and Abe Fortas from the Yale Law School; Adlai Stevenson of Chicago; and, from the Harvard Law School, ALGER HISS, LEE PRESSMAN, JOHN ABT AND NATHAN WITT."

The last four have been identified in sworn testimony before Congressional Committees as communists!

## IS FORTAS IMPECCABLE?

Charles Callas, research assistant to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee at the time of the Lattimore investigation, accused Fortas before the committee of pressuring Bella Dodd, while she was still a Communist, INTO MAKING A FALSE AFFIDAVIT, USED TO DEFEND LATTIMORE — THE AFFIDAVIT ACTUALLY BEING PREPARED BY FORTAS AND AN IDENTIFIED COMMUNIST!

This is a serious charge. WHY WAS THE MATTER NOT PROBED? If false, why was not Callas punished and Fortas' name cleared? If true, why did the Committee recommend the appointment?

## ABE FORTAS AND GESELL REPORT

During Lyndon Johnson's Vice Presidency, Fortas served as head of the EQUAL

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## Abe Fortas and Friends....

ALGER HISS, convicted perjurer  
"Abe Fortas . . . New Dealer was a friend of Hiss."

(Chicago Tribune 7/30/65)

HARRY DEXTER WHITE, Soviet Agent  
On Jan. 4, 1945, Fortas wrote White: "I am delighted the President nominated you to be Assistant Secretary of Treasury . . ."

OWEN LATTIMORE, "a conscious, articulate instrument of the communist conspiracy."

Speaking of Fortas, Lattimore wrote in his book: ". . . I now had more than a lawyer; I had a friend and we believed in each other."

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he had been 'significantly connected with communists and communist fronts over a considerable period of time.'

## THE RECORD SHOWS

Abe Fortas has belonged to the following Communist Fronts:

1. NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD (YAF May 1964 "Report on The Left")
2. SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ON HUMAN WELFARE. (Congressional Records show that Fortas joined SCHW in 1947, three years after a Special House Committee declared it subversive.)
3. AMERICAN LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (APPENDIX IX, p. 1093)
4. INTERNATIONAL JURIDICAL ASSOCIATION (APPENDIX IX, p. 795)
5. Congressional Records show that Fortas joined the WASHINGTON COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION in the early 1940s. Attorney General Clark later listed the group as "subversive and communist." ("REPORT ON THE LEFT," YAF, May 1964)

## WHAT FORTAS SAID TO THE COMMITTEE

When Fortas was accused of being associated with the cited Communist Front, INTERNATIONAL JURIDICAL ASSOCIATION, he stated that he never had any connection with it whatsoever.

## THE RECORD SHOWS:

On page 795, Appendix IX, Special Committee on Un-American Activities Report, we read:

"The following persons are officers or national committeemen of THE INTERNATIONAL JURIDICAL ASSOCIATION:"

In that list, which also includes such notorious Marxists as Nathan Witt, David Niles, Lee Pressman, Abraham J. Isserman and Shad Polier, we find the name of Abe Fortas.

## WHAT FORTAS TOLD THE COMMITTEE

Fortas testified with regard to the Jenkins affair that he only wanted the WASHINGTON EVENING STAR to hold up publication of the affair, not to squash it.

## THE RECORD SHOWS:

According to the WASHINGTON EVENING STAR, Fortas wanted the story KILLED not HELD UP. "It was Mr. Fortas who tried to squelch the Jenkin's story by urging a Washington newspaper not to print it." (Cong. Hall, Missouri, before the Senate Committee 7/27/65)

## REGARDING THE FORTAS DENIAL

Abe Fortas' statement denying that he had been "significantly connected with communists and communist fronts over a

considerable period of time" leaves much to be desired. A properly functioning committee would find it difficult to accept Fortas' statement as a satisfactory answer to the testimony against him. Serious charges were made. The above statement is not sufficient to clear Fortas of a background of communist and communist front associations that would force the committee to vote against his appointment.

## FORTAS AND HISS

The following comes from the CHICAGO TRIBUNE, July 30, 1965:

"ABE FORTAS NOMINATED TO HIGH COURT. NEW DEALER WAS FRIEND OF HISS." According to an editorial in the same issue Fortas "helped Alger Hiss and Dexter White, Soviet Agents, to draft the United Nations Charter."

## FORTAS AND LATTIMORE

OWEN LATTIMORE was perhaps Fortas' best known client. The SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY COMMITTEE reached the following conclusion regarding Lattimore, as recorded in their 1952 Report No. 2050, on the INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS.

"OWEN LATTIMORE WAS FOR SOME TIME, BEGINNING IN THE 1930s, A CONSCIOUS, ARTICULATE INSTRUMENT OF THE COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY."

Consider the following excerpt from Lattimore's book: "ORDEAL BY SLANDER," (this statement was made after Lattimore learned that Budenz would testify against him)

"Abe," I (Lattimore) said, "I don't see how we can do any pussyfooting on this. I want to meet this thing head on and slug it out . . . I owe it to myself and the issues that are at stake . . ." Abe said nothing, but I could see from his face that I had more than a lawyer. I had a friend and we believed in each other."

Congressman Ashbrook, speaking of Fortas' association with the INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS, stated:

"At a meeting of the Washington Institute of Pacific Relations Advisory Committee, held at the home of Owen Lattimore, on March 25, 1946, a number of suggestions were made for building up the Washington chapter. One of the suggestions was to build 'first class programs' around headlines."

"Who was suggested as one of those headlines? Abe Fortas. The Institute of Pacific Relations hearings show the name Abe Fortas in many connections — not just the counsel for the witness."

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